

HB 4050 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

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Meeting Dates: 2/12, 2/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Reorganizes provisions of the crime of cockfighting and the crime of participation in cockfighting. Maintains both crimes as Class C felonies.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 Removes exemption from animal abuse statutes for livestock transportation, rodeos, commercially grown poultry, and other activities for individuals prohibited from owning or possessing animals under ORS 167.332.

BACKGROUND:

A person commits the crime of cockfighting if the person knowingly a) owns or possesses, trains, or sells fighting birds; b) promotes or performs services to promote cockfighting; c) keeps, manages, or collects money for admission to the location of cockfights; d) permits a place to be used for cockfighting; or, e) manufactures, sells, buys, or possesses implements designed to be attached to fighting birds and designed for use in cockfighting. The crime of participation in cockfighting occurs is a person knowingly attends a cockfight or manufactures, sells, buys, or possesses other equipment used for training or handling a fighting bird, or for enhancing the fighting ability of the bird.

House Bill 4050 moves the provisions of the crime of cockfight relating to manufacturing, selling, buying, or possessing implements, such as gaff, slasher, and other sharp tools designed to be attached to the fighting bird from the crime of cockfighting and into the crime of participation in cockfighting. Both crimes are class C felonies, so the measure does not change the offense level.